



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Tallgrass Prairie
National Preserve

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Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve News Release

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For Immediate Release

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Kite Cam Takes Off at Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve




Visitors interested in following the variety of construction projects at Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve have been given an opportunity to do so with the use of the “kite cam” and other photos. Photos are being posted on the park’s Facebook and website pages. The “kite cam” was created by the preserve’s seasonal bio-tech Billy Robb, who is both inventive and a bit of a tinkerer. Over the past holiday weekend and using model toy parts, Robb jerry-rigged the remote controlled “kite cam” that produced aerial photos of the pre-construction conditions of the site. A few of those photos have been posted on the park’s Facebook page.

“The internet sites provide a means for visitors, stakeholders and taxpayers to monitor the progress of a variety of projects that will get underway this summer in the preserve,” stated Superintendent Wendy Lauritzen, “It’s going to be a busy summer.” There will be lots of construction activity throughout the entire complex of historic buildings. Some of the construction and repair projects that will begin in July and August are: 1) the Visitor Center and Administrative Headquarters building, 2) a metal shed rehab

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project that will create flush toilets to replace the portable vault toilets, 3) replacing the floor joists and floor boards in the 3-story barn, plus 4) work on the roof dormers of the barn, 5) exterior painting of the Spring Hill Ranch house, and 6) rebuilding a section of the limestone fence.

Visit the preserve's website at www.nps.gov/tapr. For more frequent updates, visit the site's Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Tallgrass-Prairie-National>. Let the park know if you like these photos on Facebook. Photo postings on these web sites will be done approximately once a week after construction has begun in full force. Starting June 27, 2011, dirt is expected to be moved as the construction of the Visitor Center begins.

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